

4/6/2026

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

2026-115/10-10

To: FAA (ATM ZME ARTCC, AJV-A)

2337502

Info: FAA (AFS-260, AFS-200, AVP-1, AVP-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations, ESA South), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, APA, ASAP, ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA, Jeppesen Sanderson Inc.

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director  
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: Similar Sounding Fix Names - HAGEL/HAGAL

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at [becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov](mailto:becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov).



Aviation Safety Reporting System  
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



## ACN 2337502

### DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence 202602  
Local Time Of Day 1201 to 1800

### PLACE

Locale ZME.ARTCC  
State TN  
Altitude - MSL 26000

### ENVIRONMENT

Flight Conditions VMC

### AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Center ZME  
Make Model Name Small Transport  
Operating Under FAR Part 135

### PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew Captain  
Function - Flight Crew Single Pilot  
ASRS Report Number 2337502

### EVENTS

Anomaly Deviation - Track / Heading - All Types  
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Clearance  
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Published  
Material / Policy  
Detector - Person Air Traffic Control  
Result - Flight Crew Returned To Clearance  
Result - Air Traffic Control Issued Advisory / Alert

### NARRATIVE 1

Just after leveling at 26,000 feet I crossed BAMMA waypoint and made a left turn towards HAGAL waypoint. Two minutes after turning ATC calls me and asks are you sure you are heading to HAGAL? I checked the GPS – it shows direct HAGEL not direct HAGAL. It is a heading difference of 23 degrees. There was a left direct crosswind of over 130 kt. so I really didn't notice the extra turn towards the west. I have flown this route a number of times recently and have the route pre-stored in the GPS. Unfortunately, I didn't realize that there were two stored routes for this trip and one of them had the waypoint HAGEL instead of HAGAL. I failed to double-check the stored routed after selecting it. That is a mistake I will not make again.

### SYNOPSIS

Air taxi Captain reported flying direct to HAGEL instead of the cleared HAGAL and did not realize this mistake until ATC inquired.